

News About Placer County Businesses

These news briefs are prepared by the Placer County

Office of Economic Development.

Monthly Economic Development *In Progress*Email Newsletter Archive 2000

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In Progress Online, June, 2000

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WHY AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT E-MAIL NEWSLETTER?

You told us you wanted a quick, easy way to find out what's new in the Placer County business community. Our response is In Progress Online, a monthly e-mail newsletter. In it, you'll find short items about new and growing businesses, major projects in progress, cities' and the county's development plans, and programs that benefit businesses. We'll even provide the Web links for more details on each story. And you can let us know what's happening in your business. In short, *In Progress Online* will link you to the latest business news from our office and around the county. Send your information, questions, comments, suggestions to Economic Development, at econdev@placer.ca.gov

NEED TRAINED WORKERS? PCED & SIERRA COLLEGE CAN HELP

Let a Placer County Office of Economic Development/Sierra College team help you meet your staff needs. The team provides specific-to-you, short-term, hands-on training. Call to set a time to evaluate your current or future staff development or training needs. (916) 660-9121. For more information, visit the <u>Twelve Bridges Workforce</u> Web page. (http://www.placer.ca.gov/calworks/cw-employer-12bridges.htm)

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TRAIN FOR SUMMER WAREHOUSE JOBS

In a Sierra College tech ed class, local high school students are being trained in forklift operation, OSHA safety standards, shipping and receiving, oding, inventory control, and following an injury-prevention plan - everything, in short, to prepare them for summer warehouse jobs. For details about offering internships or hiring students, call (916) 781-6235.

TAHOE CITY STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN ADOPTED

In January, county supervisors adopted a long-range plan to retain, expand, and attract business to Tahoe City. The plan calls for more parking, improved transit, beautified storefronts, better signage, design guidelines, and more - all to enhance business while preserving the town's unique historical, lakefront character. For more details, read the recent news release. (http://www.placer.ca.gov/news/1-17-tcplan.htm)

COUNTY OBTAINING USE PERMIT FOR SUNSET INDUSTRIAL AREA

Placer County has filed for a Master Conditional Use Permit to cover 1,040 acres in the

Sunset Industrial Area, south of Lincoln. With the permit, the county can issue permits for qualifying projects in less than 28 days, rather than the usual three to 12 months. The SIA acres, planned and zoned for industry, could then be developed very quickly. For more details, read the <u>recent news release</u>. (http://www.placer.ca.gov/placer/news/2000/2-4-sunset-permit.htm)

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In Progress Online, July, 2000

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Ceronix Named Auburn Business of the Year

A world leader in producing custom color video monitors, Ceronix has been named Business of the Year by the Auburn Area Chamber of Commerce. Owner Don Whitaker is adding two new divisions, high-resolution medical monitors and touch sensor screens, to his 21-acre Auburn campus. Ceronix has 76 employees. http://www.placer.ca.gov/biznews/ceronix.htm

Planning Department Projects on View on Web Site

An Alpine Meadows subdivision, a Tahoe restaurant relocation, a youth mining camp and retreat center -- these are just a few items on the "Current Projects List" of Placer County's planning department. To see the complete list of current and major projects, or to learn more about the Placer Legacy Open Space Preservation Project, go to http://www.placer.ca.gov/planning/

Sierra's Tech Ed Offers Computer Repair Classes

Sierra College's Tech Ed department is offering classes this summer and fall that prepare students for A+ certification as computer repair technicians. After completing the class, Tech Ed 60, students take a national certification exam given by CompTIA, the Computer Tech Industry Association, that represents over 8,000 manufacturers and computer companies nationally and internationally. Classes are ongoing. Call Tech Ed Dept, Sierra College, (916) 781-6235 or fax (916) 781-6236.

Galleria Job Fair Set for July 12

A job fair for the Galleria at Roseville will be held July 12, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., in Rocklin, in the Sierra College cafeteria. The Galleria is a new 1.1 million square foot shopping mall, housing 120 tenants, that will open in Roseville August 25. More than 70 tenants will be represented at the fair, looking for workers for all types of retail jobs. http://www.galleriaroseville.com

Ikeda's Adds Web Site

Ikeda's California Country Market, in Auburn, now has its own Web site. Opened 30 years ago as a fruit stand and burger bar, the market now includes a pie shop, espresso bar, fruit smoothie bar, and several lines of Ikeda's signature family sauces and dressings. Many of Ikeda's non-perishable gourmet items are available online at http://www.ikedas.com

Sunset Industrial Area Heats Up

Placer County's Sunset Industrial Area, 9,000 acres just north of Roseville, is hot. More than 1.5 million square feet of development is planned for the area. Current project developers at SIA include Townsend Capital LLC, developer Buzz Oates, and the Placer Corporate Center. http://www.bizjournals.com/sacramento/stories/2000/05/22/story1.html

Construction on Intrawest Squaw Valley Project Begins

Intrawest Squaw Corporation broke ground recently on the first phase of The Village at Squaw Valley USA, a four-season, alpine-style destination resort. Intrawest's four-phase master plan calls for 640 residential units, underground parking, and 80 shops and restaurants. http://www.intrawest.com/squaw

Galil Motion Control Relocates to Foothills

Galil Motion Control, a world leader in motion control technology, is moving its entire operation from Mountain View to Atherton Tech Center, located in unincorporated Placer County. The company will occupy a 27,000-square-foot building and initially employ 30 people. Founded in 1983, Galil designs and sells servo-motion controllers, used in various industries.

Coherent Expands, Moves into Telecom Market

Coherent Auburn Group, a branch of the Palo Alto-based laser giant, plans to add an 80,000-square-foot building to its Auburn campus this year. The \$10 million building, Coherent's fourth in Auburn, will boost the group's workspace to 250,000 square foot. The expansion reflects Coherent's entry into a burgeoning, new market -- wideband telecommunications systems that use lasers and fiber optics to move data for telecom and e-commerce companies. http://www.placer.ca.gov/biznews/biznews.htm

County Web Site Adds Info

More information and services are now online at the county's Web site, www.placer.ca. gov. New is commonly requested information and a number of forms that can be filled

out online, and then printed and mailed, or faxed in. The site covers county land use, county committees and commissions, building permits, county jobs available, and election information. http://www.placer.ca.gov/news/5-23-00-web-site.htm

County Applies for Permit to Cover SIA

Placer County has started the environmental review process to obtain a single Master Conditional Use Permit to cover 1,040 acres of industrially zoned land in the Sunset Industrial Area, north of Roseville. With the permit, the county can speed permitting time from several months to several weeks, for qualifying businesses. http://www.placer.ca.gov/news/2-4-sunset-permit.htm

Grape Growers, County Cooperate on Policy-making

Grape grower Jim Taylor was the first to ask Placer County about opening a wine-tasting room. No policies had been set on that question, so Taylor formed the Placer County Wine & Grape Growers Association to help him -- and the county -- to form guidelines. The group is working with Christine Turner, the county's agricultural commissioner, to establish workable grape-growing and wine-tasting policies. http://www.placer.ca.gov/biznews

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Colfax Excels at Oil Recycling

With grant funds from the California State Integrated Waste Management Board, the City of Colfax has built a high-profile oil-recycling center that last year recycled nearly 2,000 gallons of oil. The center is unique - most state-assisted oil-recycling centers are on private property - and serves the area from Clipper Gap to Alta. The center, at Rising Sun and Tokayana Way, is open Saturday, 11 - 3, accepting car oil and filters. Free plastic recycling containers are available. Visit the California State Integrated Waste Management Board Web site.

Target Stores Target Grand Opening

On October 8th, Target Stores - the largest division of Target Corporation operating 921 stores in 45 states - will open its doors in Auburn. The 97,000-square-foot store with 160 employees will go in at Hwy 49 and Bell Road. The new store will be the 11th Target in Greater Sacramento. More information in *The Sacramento Business Journal*. Visit the Target Web site.

Sac Metro Chamber Sends Business Questionnaires

To improve business/government relations, the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce has developed a business retention questionnaire sent to thousands of area businesses. What concerns, issues, hurdles do businesses encounter when dealing with government agencies the questionnaire asks. Results will be the basis of an economic development forum to be held in September. To obtain a questionnaire, visit the Sacramento Metro Chamber Web site.

More Offices, Retail Space Planned for Roseville, Rocklin

The last two big pieces of uncommitted land in fast-growing Roseville and Rocklin have been spoken for. In Roseville, developer Richland Properties is proposing to build a 1.1 million square-foot office and retail center. And in Rocklin, Longmeadow Development Corp. will soon close escrow on a 125-acre parcel, which is scheduled for development. More information in *The Sacramento Business Journal*

Galleria Outpaces Other Big New U.S. Malls in Leasing

On August 25, the new 1.1 million-square-foot regional mall, Galleria at Roseville, will open to great fanfare. As of June, the mall was 99 percent leased, which is a figure that comparable malls opened in the country in the last year have not equaled. More information in *The Sacramento Business Journal*. Visit the Galleria Web site.

Miltenyi Biotech, Inc. Expands

Miltenyi Biotech, Inc., an Auburn company that specializes in cell separation products for biomedical and life science applications, is expanding to a new 26,000-square-foot building on Earhart Avenue. The company, which employs 67, outgrew its former 8,000 square-foot space. Miltenyi Biotech is the U.S. headquarters for a German company of the same name. Visit the Miltenyi Biotech, Inc. Web site.

PRe Plastics, Inc. Moves to Larger Facility

In October, PRe Plastics, a custom plastic products company located in Auburn, is moving from its current 11,000-square-foot space to a 20,000-square-foot space on Kemper Road. A leader in the plastic injection molding industry for 30 years, PRe Plastics has 22 employees and expects to add more after the move. Visit the PRe Plastics Web site.

U.S. Para Plate Corporation Moving to Auburn Airport Industrial Park

U.S. Para Plate Corporation has relocated from Sacramento into a new 20,000-square-foot facility in the Auburn Airport Industrial Park. The company, which employs 35, makes fluid control devices -- valves, pressure regulators, and controls -- mainly for aerospace but also for industrial and marine applications. President and CEO Charles Trask said the company moved to be closer to related businesses it was already working with and because of the Auburn area's good labor base, especially qualified contract workers. Visit the U.S. Para Plate Corporation Web site.

Foresthill Mill Site to be Revitalized

A sixty-acre parcel of the old Georgia Pacific Mill site is one of nine statewide accepted into the California Mill Reuse Pilot Program, an effort co-sponsored by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the California Trade and Commerce Agency. County, state, and federal officials met recently with parcel owners George Grant and Kenton Drone to brainstorm about potential uses for the site and how best to proceed with development. Being considered is a light manufacturing industrial park, affordable housing, and an adult education branch of Sierra College. More information is available on the California Mill Reuse Pilot Program Web site.

County May Contract with ETP

Placer County is working toward a contract with the state Employment and Training Panel to help retrain Welfare to Work workers, people receiving unemployment benefits, and those needing special employment training. The ETP was set up to benefit the California economy as a whole, especially companies facing out of state competition. A partnership with the county would provide more trained workers to Placer County businesses; workers could even be trained on site, for a specific company. Contact: (530) 889-4061.

Sierra College Offers Fall Tech Ed Courses

Employees can upgrade skills or work toward a certificate or degree through the Technical Education department at Sierra College. Offered are such classes as Computer Construction, Preparation for A+ certification, and Soldering Techniques. The fall schedule starts August 21. Visit the <u>Sierra College</u> Web site.

Rubber Products Maker Relocates from Sunnyvale to Roseville

Performance Polymer Technologies, a custom silicone and organic product manufacturer, is relocating from Sunnyvale to Roseville this month. Affordability of space and availability of people resources prompted the move, said company president Lonnie J. Wimberly. PPT makes silicone bungs for the wine industry and other products for the food and beverage industry. Twenty-five employees are moving with the company, and another 25 will be hired after the move. Visit the Performance Polymer Technologies Web site.

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South Placer Builders Demand Fiber-optic Network

Companies building fiber-optic telecommunications networks are racing to keep pace with rapidly growing development in south Placer County. Today the ability to connect to a fiber-optic network is a key requirement of new companies and plays a key role in the county's economic development, said Ed Graves, Placer County economic development director. For more information, visit the Sacramento Business Journal . http://www. bizjournals.com/sacramento/stories/2000/08/07/focus2.html#Sacramento Business Journal)

Placer County Number One in Job and Income Growth

Once again, Placer County is now among the most affluent counties in California outside of the Bay Area, ranking first in job and income growth and fourth in population growth. With Placer County being one of the fastest growing counties in California over the last decade, reports confirm it will probably remain among the frontrunners for the next 10 years. For more information, visit the Center for Continuing Study of the California Economy (http://www.ccsce.com/index2.htm)

County Offers Call Center Training

In response to the many new call centers opening in Placer County, the county is helping to start a call center-training program. The program is expected to start in January. The Office of Economic Development and Sierra College have developed this customized workforce program with funding from the state ETP panel. Any employers that could benefit from having a trained workforce with call center skills may contact Pamela Casteel at placer.ca.gov> to refer qualified candidates.

Galil Motion Control Moves to Placer County

Galil Motion Control, a world leader in motion control technology, has moved its entire operation from Mountain View to a 27,000-square-foot building in Stanford Ranch's Atherton Tech Center. The company will initially employ 30 people, but expects that number to double in five years. Galil designs and sells servo-motion controllers, which have scientific applications and are used in machine tools, medical equipment, and the aerospace and food processing industries. The company is still hiring. For more, visit Galil Motion Control (http://www.galilmc.com/)

Sierra College Work Training Programs

- A Cisco Systems Network class started in Spring, 1999. To date, 547 people have gone through training to become Cisco Certified Networking Associates.
- During 1999-2000 fiscal year -- July to June 2000 -- Sierra's workforce training program trained 1,699 employees of local manufacturing companies.
- A Robotics Diagnostic Site is nearing completion in preparation for our new industrial automated equipment technician training program, which will include robotics, PLCs, pneumatics, material movement, manufacturing, reliability and

sensor devices. For more information, contact Pamela Casteel at placer. ca.gov>

Crowds Flock to Galleria at Roseville Opening

Circus acts, fireworks, fashion shows, artwork unveilings and musical events highlighted the grand opening in late August of the Galleria at Roseville, a new 1.1 million square foot regional mall off Hwy 65. Turnout for the three-day opening was estimated to be 317,000 people. The mall includes 120 retailers, outdoor courtyard and a \$2.5 million landscaping project. For more, visit the <u>Galleria at Roseville</u> (http://www.galleriaroseville.com/)

Pride Industries Consolidates on New Roseville Campus

Pride Industries, the region's sixth-largest manufacturer, has just moved into a new \$17 million, 177,000-square-foot building on a 17-acre campus in Roseville. The move brings the company's five divisions together for the first time. Founded in 1966 in Auburn, Pride Industries is a private, nonprofit corporation whose mission is to create jobs for people with disabilities. For more information, visit Pride Industries (http://www.prideindustries. com/)

Lake Tahoe Food and Wine Festival Set for Oct. 27 - 29

Gourmet food and winetasting, master chef-led cooking demonstrations and educational seminars, and a culinary competition highlight the 15th Annual Lake Tahoe Food and Wine Festival at the Resort at Squaw Creek, Oct. 27 to 29. Also included are an art and wine auction. For more information or tickets visit <u>Lake Tahoe Central Reservations</u> (http://www.tahoefun.org/)

Ceronix Plans 1.5 Million Building

Ceronix Inc., which makes touch screens for gambling, bowling and video games, is putting up a \$1.5 million building to house its new touch-screen sensor division,

CerTouch. Company founder Don Whitaker says the project is the second of five buildings planned for its 21-acre site near Auburn Airport and The Ridge golf course. For more, visit the Sacramento Business Journal (http://www.bizjournals.com/sacramento/stories/2000/07/31/daily12.html) or Ceronix, Inc (http://www.ceronix.com/flash/contactinfo.html)

Squaw Valley Lodge Adding 40 Units

The <u>Squaw Valley Lodge</u> ttp://www.squawvalleylodge.com/tahoe/SITE/top/listing.cfm/lodging/895/0/direct) at the base of Squaw Valley, USA, is adding 40 one-, two-, and three-bedroom units to its facility, bringing the total number of lodging units to 218. The addition will be completed by December 15. For more, visit the <u>Squaw Valley Times</u> (http://www.squawvalleytimes.com)

Northstar Makes Plans to Expand

Significant residential and commercial redevelopment is both under construction and under consideration at Northstar-at-Tahoe (http://www.skinorthstar.com/), which is aiming to better compete with other nationally known resort destinations. The resort's plans include installing new lifts and trails over the next five years.

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Four Hospital Systems Growing in Placer County

All four of the area's hospital systems -- Sutter Health, Mercy Healthcare Sacramento, the UC Davis Health System, and Kaiser Permanente -- are jockeying for market share in fast-growing Placer County. All four are moving ahead with plans for expansion and new programs. The reason is simple: people. Employers in South Placer County are expected to generate 100,000 jobs in the next 20 years. For more information, visit the Sacramento Business Journal or (http://www.bizjournals.com/sacramento/stories/2000/10/02/story2. html)

High-tech Complex Fetches Record Price

South Placer County's standing as an emerging center for the high-tech industry hit a new high this week: \$52. The number reflects the highest price ever paid, measured per square foot, for an industrial building in the Sacramento region. The new local record was set when a partnership of developers sold a 769,698-square-foot, high-tech complex at 10000 Allantown Drive in Roseville for \$40 million. For more information, visit the Sacramento Business Journal or (http://www.bizjournals.com/sacramento/stories/2000/10/23/story6. html)

Stanford Ranch Opens Last Large Commercial Tract

Stanford Ranch, one of the most successful land developments in the region, is "unlocking" most of its remaining undeveloped office land for new projects in Rocklin. The 3,500-acre mixed-use real estate project got started in 1986 with 700 acres available for commercial space. Of that, only 141 acres remain. And of that remaining commercial acreage, 101 acres are about to go on the market for office developers. For more information, visit the Sacramento Business Journal or (http://www.bizjournals.com/sacramento/stories/2000/10/16/story5.html)

Major Law Firm Announces New Office in Fast-growing South Placer

Sacramento's largest regional law firm, Downey, Brand, Seymour & Rohwer LLP, will open an office in Roseville in mid-November. Downey Brand, currently with 95 attorneys, has designated construction and business litigator Art Woodward to lead the South Placer office, which will be staffed full-time. For more information, visit Downey-Brand or (http://www.dbsr.com)

Hewlett-Packard to Unveil New Product

Hewlett-Packard Co., the computer maker with big operations in Roseville, announced an October debut of the HP Integrated Partner program, designed to strengthen resellers' direct contact with HP and provide them with a greater revenue stream through incentives for new business. For more information visit the Sacramento Business Journal (http://www.bizjournals.com/sacramento/stories/2000/08/14/daily22.html) or Hewlett-Packard Co. (http://welcome.hp.com/country/us/eng/welcome.htm)

Greenheck Breaks Ground on New Facility in the Sunset Industrial Area

Greenheck Fan Co., of Schofield, WI, is expanding its manufacturing facilities with a new 106,000-square-foot facility (with room to grow to 300,000-square-feet) and will be growing to 200 employees in South Placer County's Sunset Industrial Area. A Customer Solution Center will showcase Greenheck products and serve as a multi-purpose sales and training tool for manufacturer representatives, engineers, contractors and employees. For more information, go to Greenheck's announcement or (http://www.greenheck.com/new/news.php?display=new_facility)

After-hours Business Clinic Offers Help, Advice, Resources

A free, drop-in Business Success Clinic is being offered by the Sierra College Small Business Development Center, in Auburn. Held every Wednesday and Thursday, 5 - 8 p. m., the clinic is designed to help people start or improve small businesses. Registration and first sessions are held Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. A materials fee of \$10 is charged at the first session; after that, all services are free. Clinic participants can use all center resources to do research and planning, and they also receive one-on-one counseling. For more information, visit the Sierra College Small Business Development Center or (http://www.sbdcsierra.org)

Mussetter Distributing, Inc. Contributes to Community

A 25-year-old mainstay Auburn company, Mussetter Distributing, contributes to the community in a variety of ways, said general manager Bill Grabner. A charter sponsor of Auburn's Black & White Ball, the company also donates soft drinks to most area high schools every year for their Sober Grad Night parties. The company is a strong supporter of the Sutter Auburn Faith Hospital Foundation, and this year made substantial contributions to the hospital's Hospice program and its new nurse call system. Recently, Mussetter Distributing contributed toward new gym equipment for the Auburn Police Department. The company, which has a branch in Truckee, employs 30 people in Auburn. For more information, contact Bill Grabner <r.e.m.@thegrid.net>.

Sacramento Region Promotes Urban Pioneers

A new organization, the Sacramento Regional Marketing Council has been formed to enhance the region's image. "Urban Pioneers" are the people who are making it happen and you can see their story on the new Council's web site at Sacramento Regional Marketing Council or (http://sacramentoUP.com/#). The effort is the result of a collaborative marketing effort between the public and private sectors, including Placer County. You will be hearing a lot more about the program in the coming months which is aimed at attracting business, qualified employees, venture capital and to support tourism.

California Integrated Waste Management Board Launches E-Newsletter

The Recycling Market Development Zone newsletter, RMDZ News, has switched from a print to an electronic format called RMDZ E-News. The e-mail newsletter contains up-to-date information about the California Integrated Waste Management Board's RMDZ program in general and about events and activities in each RMDZ zone in the state. For more information, or to view past issues, visit RMDZ/RMDZNews/)

MTV Shoots Second Stunt in Auburn

World champion ski surfer Troy Hartman jumped from a moving semi-truck off the Foresthill Bridge recently as part of MTV's "Senseless Acts of Video" series. It was the second stunt the production company has filmed for the series in Auburn. "This repeat business means that the company liked the location and also the cooperation and support they got here," said Placer-Lake Tahoe Film Office Director Beverly Lewis. "We're always very safety conscious because of the nature of the stunts, and they appreciate that. And we're always happy to work with production companies, especially for repeat business." For more information, visit <u>Placer - Lake Tahoe Film Office</u> or (http://www.placer.ca.gov/films)

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Agilent, HP's Spinoff, Gains Area Recognition

Agilent is a global, diversified technology company that resulted from Hewlett-Packard's split last November into two fully independent companies. The start-up company, the largest new employer of jobs in Roseville last year, was recently recognized by the Sacramento Area Commerce and Trade Organization for its decision to stay in the area after its split from HP. For more information, visit Agilent Technologies or the Sacramento Area Trade and Commerce Organization (SACTO).

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Auburn Honors Stacy Dragila with Parade, Ceremony

Olympic gold medalist Stacy Dragila made a triumphant return in November to her hometown of Auburn, cheered on by over a thousand residents. The record-setting pole vaulter was presented with a key to the city and honored with a parade and a ceremony inducting her into the Auburn Sports Hall of Fame. The Placer County Board of Supervisors issued a proclamation of praise in honor of her accomplishment, and a statement from Rep. John Doolittle was read at a rousing welcome home ceremony.

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County to be Showcase for European Farmers

Farmers from Bulgaria will visit Placer County in January to tap into the commercial marketing savvy for small farms. Marketing know-how is the focus of the "Farmers to Farmers" project said Lyndell Grey, a Lincoln High School graduate who went on to earn a doctorate in education and teach in Bulgaria. The project will bring teams of two European growers for three-month periods to see small family farms in Placer County.

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Foresthill Road Work Completed

In November crews completed a long-awaited project to widen and straighten much of the road linking Foresthill and Auburn. Foresthill residents celebrated with a ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially re-open 26 million project, started in 1989. The road improvements mean easier travel for residents, recreationists, and tourists. The wider, more user-friendly road also makes doing business in Foresthill easier, county officials said, and makes the community's business property more accessible. For more information, contact the Office of Economic Development.

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State Chamber of Commerce Revamps Its Web Site

The California Chamber of Commerce in Sacramento has launched an updated version of its Web site, making it easier for members and non-members to navigate and find information. The <u>State Chamber</u> has revamped its entire site by arranging all items under seven main categories, including News and Chamber Positions, which includes vote records and other legislative material. For more information, visit the <u>Sacramento Business Journal</u>.

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South Placer Population Boom Leads the Region

By any standard, Roseville and Rocklin remain two of Greater Sacramento's fastest-growing cities. A Demographics Daily analysis of newly released U.S. Census Bureau data notes that Roseville grew 72.2 percent from 1990 to 1999, up 32,304 residents to 77,048; and its neighbor Rocklin grew 82.5 percent or up 15,462 people to 34,205. Measured by percentage, the region's five fastest-growing cities were Galt, Rocklin, Roseville, Folsom, and Lincoln. For more information, visit the Sacramento Business Journal.

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Twelve Bridges Crossing Dedicated

Dedicated in November and set to open soon, the Twelve Bridges Drive interchange now spans the new four lanes of Highway 65 in south Placer County. Twelve Bridges Drive connects Industrial Avenue and Highway 65 with Twelve Bridges and Del Webb's Sun City Lincoln Hills at Lincoln Parkway. The opening of Twelve Bridges Drive is seen as another economic boost to the fast-developing Highway 65 corridor. For more information, contact Lincoln public works director John Pedri.

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Earlybird Economists are Bullish

The strong growth of the Sacramento region's economy should continue through next year, even if an expected slowdown comes in the national economy. That was the message distilled from 12 experts assembled in Sacramento in October for the 2001 Earlybird Economic Forecast. The forecast is mounted each year by the Sacramento Business Journal, with support from the business school at UC Davis, the Sacramento Area Commerce and Trade Organization, and 10 other area business agencies. For more information, visit the Sacramento Business Journal or SACTO, the Sacramento Area Commerce and Trade Organization.

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Squaw Creek Makes Top 25

The Resort at Squaw Creek has been named the 25th top performing resort in the United States by Lodging Hospitality, a national hospitality management magazine. The resort was also recognized by Corporate & Incentive Travel, a prominent meeting and convention publication with a 2000 Award of Excellence for superior meeting and incentive travel programs. For more information, visit the Squaw Valley Times.

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Call Center Training to Start in January

In an effort to meet the growing demand for qualified customer service and call center agents in Placer County, the first call center training program will begin January16. Graduates will be job ready for placement in April. This State of California training program is funded by ETP (Employment Training Panel). ETP is funded through the Employment Training Tax, which is levied on California employers who participate in the Unemployment Insurance System. If your industry is experiencing a shortage of skilled workers and/or you need to upgrade skills training for your existing workforce, please contact Pamela Casteel at (530) 889-4061.

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Coherent Views Auburn as Key Site

Coherent Auburn Group, a branch of the Palo Alto-based laser giant, continues to position Auburn as a key site in its growth plans. Moving into the telecommunications market, Coherent is adding a new 80,000-square-foot building in Auburn -- its fourth at the Auburn Airport Industrial Park campus -- which should be completed in February. Auburn's campus, employing 511, is the corporation's largest. For more information, visit Coherent.

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Why an Economic Development E-Mail Newsletter?

You told us you wanted a quick, easy way to find out what's new in the Placer County business community. Our response is *In Progress Online*, a monthly email newsletter. In it, you'll find short items about new and growing businesses, major projects in progress, our cities' and the county's development plans, and programs that benefit businesses. We even provide Web links for more details on each story. And you can let us know what's happening in your business. Send items, questions, comments, suggestions to the Office of Economic Development.

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